A Journal for Friends of Animals
Volume 1, Issue 1
Summer 1988

NOAH'S ARK ANIMAL FARM JOURNAL

Llamas are lovable – if you treat them well!

Be kind to your llama is a good rule for all llama owners. Why? Because the llama is a cooperative and helpful beast of burden if treated well, but he becomes sullen and balkly if mistreated.

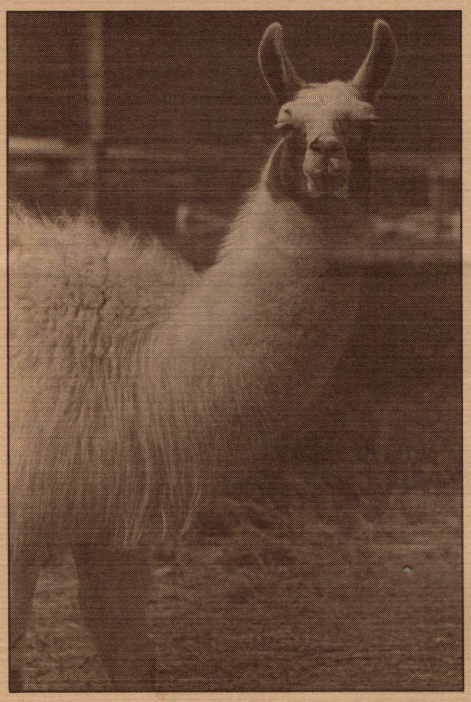
Yes, llamas do spit.

But only if you have mistreated him by overloading with too much weight (more than 100-130 pounds) or by asking him to walk more than 25 miles a day.

Then again, he may spit at you if you happen to be an uncooperative female at mating time.

The llama (*lama glama* is the scientific name) is a member of the camel family, which dates back to the Eocene Period — 40 to 50 million years ago! Unlike camels, llamas have no hump on their back, but they do love dry terrain.

One natural habitat is the dry grasslands of the high Andean region of South America. They are also found in Bolivia, Peru, Ecuador, Chile and Argentina.



The lovable llama at Noah's Ark Animal Farm basks in the sun.

But the original homeland of the llama ancestor was North America. About two million years ago they began to migrate, and by the end of the Glacial Period, the genus *Camelops* was extinct in North America.

The llama was probably domesticated during or before Inca civilization, and it is not known to exist in the wild today. Primarily the llama has been used as a pack animal, however, llamas are also used as a source of food, wool, hides, tallow for candles and dried dung for fuel. The wool from its soft undercoat is used for clothing,

Usually, the llama is white, but it can be black or brown, or white with dark markings.

Only one offspring a year is born — rarely twins — after a gestation period of about 11 months.

A letter from Dan Byler

In the beginning ...

Many people ask, how did you come up with the idea of an Animal Farm?

My wife Edna, and I have a company called By-Line Mfg. & Uphol. Inc. that manufactures a product called Pad-A-Pew, which we market to churches nationwide. We install this unique product on hard church pews, right on location.

In the early years of the company, Edna and I and our sons travelled all across America installing Pad-A-Pew. We came across small theme parks, such as Pymatuning Deer Park in

(continued on page 2)

Contents

Miniature trains turn back time – page 2

Beautiful baby bears!! – page 3

Draw baby bears
Miniature golf – page 4

Engineer Terry Lyons pulls out of the train station as his passengers prepare for an exciting ride.

Miniature trains bring a gleam to eyes of old and young

"All A-B-OOO-RRRR-D!"

The traditional cry ripples through animal sounds at Noah's Ark Animal Farm as an engineer calls for boarding on one of the park's miniature trains.

The trains are exact replicas of old General Motors F3 Streamliners which plied the country during the railroad's Golden Years. A part of this past is kept alive at Noah's Ark.

Some things are changed. A four-cylinder gasoline engine replaces the massive Diesels which powered the original. The 16-inch track reflects the shrinking of the miniature trains' 2-inch-per-foot scale.

But the essentials remain — the gleam in childrens' and adults' eyes as the miniature train tootles around the Farm. The train passes through the world's smallest covered bridge, picks up speed beside the pond and winds around past the raccoon and bear cages. On the back stretch, once through the woods, it approaches a dark tunnel, and cries of feigned fear and delight fill the air as passengers disappear into the blackness.

The two miniature trains have traditions behind them as impressive as railroading itself. One train chugged around the Buckeye Lake Amusement Park in central Ohio, about 30 years ago. The other miniature train came from Fair Park in Nashville, TN, owned by country singer Jim Ed Brown.

Except for the specially-designed engine and transmissions, the miniature trains are exact replicas of their larger brethren. Each train has a coach and observation cars, and, depending on how the engines are coupled, can pull as many as 20 cars with up to 240 adult passengers.

The success of the miniature trains means just one thing — fun is on the right track at Noah's Ark Animal Farm!

Dan's Letter

(continued from page 1)

Jamestown Pa., Fairyland Forrest at Conneaut Lake, Pa. and many other animal parks.

Edna and I were raised old-order Amish, so we grew up on farms. The only English-printed book in our homes was a pictorial Bible story book that we read over and over. We both had a love for animals.

I worked on the B & O Railroad on a section gang, so I got attached to railroads and trains. We are also Christians.

We just combined the whole package of animal farm — park — railroad — miniature golf, and much more, and called it Noah's Ark Animal Farm.

The first year — 1984 — it seemed everything went wrong. Two weeks before the Memorial Day opening the miniature golf course wasn't ready and the train track was incomplete. On opening morning, it rained.

The first season we had 3,000 visitors, the second season 12,000, the third season 20,000 and the fourth season 30,000. This season we expect 40,000 visitors from May through October, and another 30,000 for our Christmas Light Festival that begins the day after Thanksgiving and lasts until Jan. 1, 1989.

Baby bears are busy bears

Twin cubs provide entertainment for Farm visitors

What weighs eight ounces, has a 300-pound mother, has no hair, and drinks bear milk?

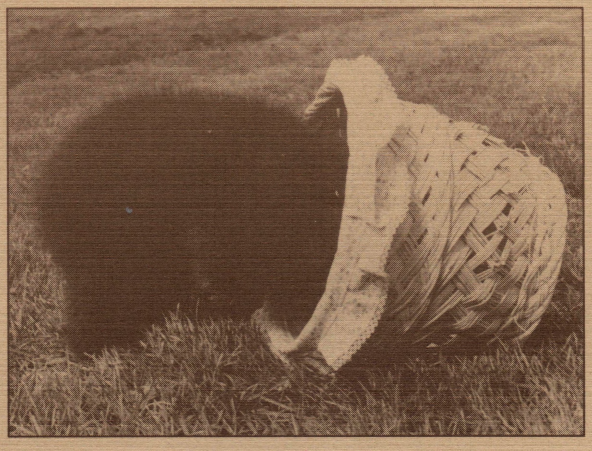
A baby bear, of course!

Or two baby bears, like at Noah's Ark Animal Farm, where twins were born to Bonnie and Clyde last January. The parents are American Black Bears, and they have lived at Noah's Ark since they were 18 months old.

When the twins were about six weeks old they were transferred from their mother's den to Dan and Edna Byler's home, where they were fed goat and cow milk from a bottle.

Just like human babies, the bear cubs had to be fed every four hours during the day. Usually, the bigger cub demanded to be fed first, and the smaller cub cried while he waited.

The cubs' diets are being gradually changed — soon they will eat a normal bear diet of vegetables and berries, plus 16-percent protein dogfood.

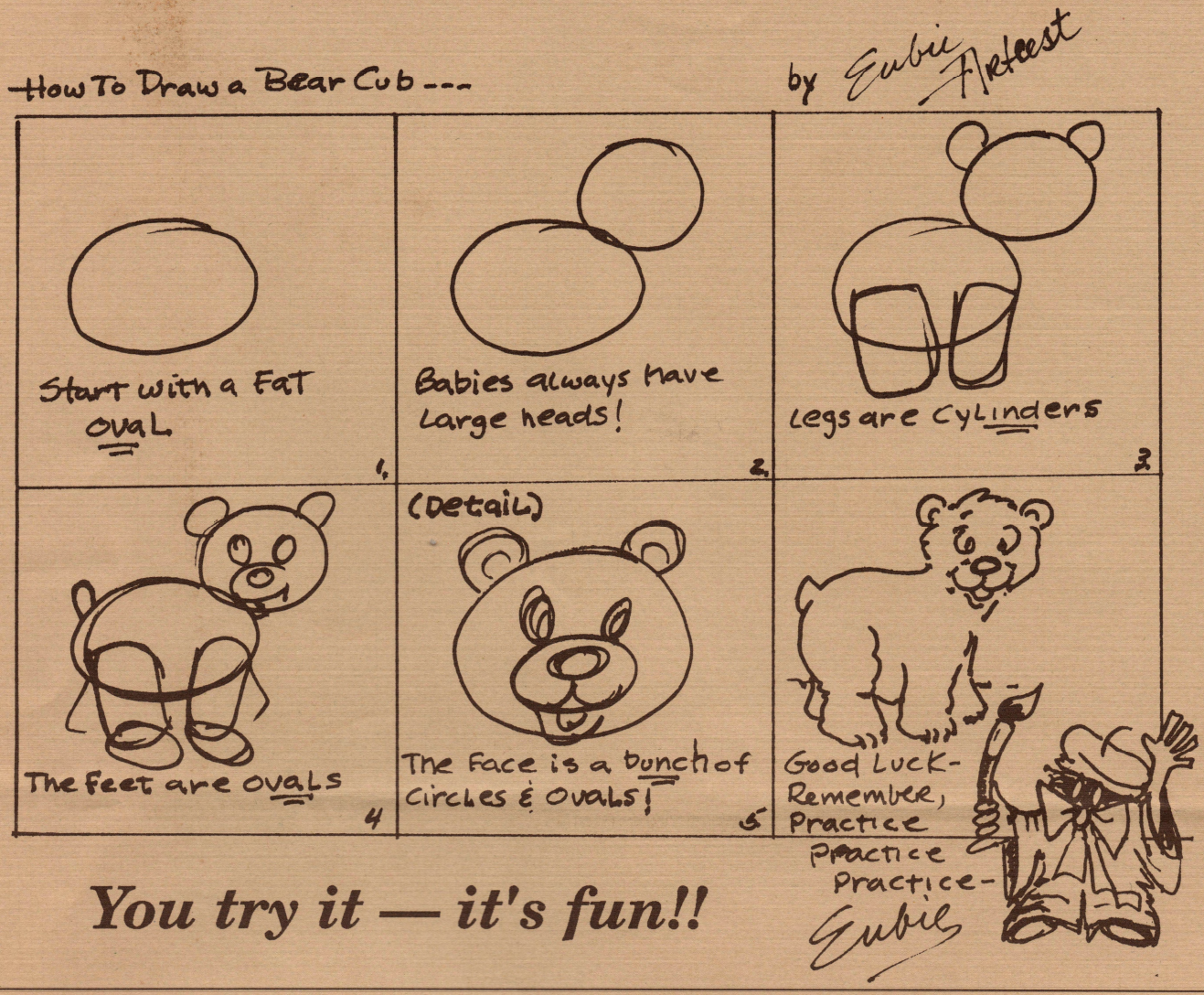


The cubs are named Frank and Jesse — as the result of a contest won by Judy Little, Wellston. Twelve entries chose the same names, so a drawing decided the final winner. Little received a season pass to Noah's Ark Animal Farm.

The playful cubs will romp and tumble about in their big cage, and put on a lively show for you!

Edna Byler feeds one of the twins a bottle of milk.

Even baby bears like Frank and Jesse can nip. As they grow, so do their teeth. Please don't put your fingers in their cage!



You try it — it's fun!!

NOAH'S ARK
ANIMAL FARM JOURNAL

A publication of **Noah's Ark Animal Farm**
1527 McGiffens Lane, Jackson, Ohio 45640
1-800-282-2167 (Ohio)
1-800-848-4191 (Nationwide)

Edited by Crocodile Communications, Logan, Ohio

Miniature golf is a big attraction for young and old alike. The 10-hole course overlooks the lake. In the photo at left, Andy Glaub, 4, son of Kerene Ream, plays a round on a warm spring day.